

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 002818/PDD/PSI/MBE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

09/24/788
JCE612 U.S. PRO
02/05/99

In re Application of: Suketu A. Parikh) Group:
Serial No.: New Application) Art Unit:
Filed:) Examiner:
For: Dual Damascene Misalignment)
Tolerant Techniques For Vias And)
Sacrificial Etch Segments)
)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement

[X] is filed within three months after the filing date of a national application or three months after the date of entry of the national stage in an international application or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

[] is filed **before** the mailing date of either (a) a final action under § 1.113 or (b) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by

— certification as specified in § 1.97(e) **or**

— the fee set forth in § 1.17(p). 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

[] is filed **after** the mailing date of either (a) a final action under § 1.113 or (b) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by

— certification as specified in § 1.97(e);

a petition requesting consideration; and
 the petition fee set forth in § 1.17(i)(1), 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Applicant submits herewith patent(s), publication(s), or other information of which applicant is aware, which applicant believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25. Each reference is identified on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the references is supplied herewith.

A concise explanation of the items listed on PTO-1449 is:

not given, since all items are in the English language
 given for only some listed non-English language item(s)
 given for each listed item, since all are non-English language documents

The following printed publications are referred to in the body of the specification:

U.S. Pat. No.: 5,635,423, to Huang et al. (1997)
Kaanta et al., "Dual Damascene: A ULSI Wiring Technology", VMIC Conference, IEEE, pp. 144-152, Jun. 11-12, 1991

The following commonly assigned patent application is referred to in the body of the application:

U.S. Pat. application Serial No.: 09/114,682, to Wai-Fan Yau et al. (1998), assignee:
Applied Materials, Inc.

Applicant is aware of the following commonly assigned U.S. Pat. applications which may be material to the examination of this application.

Serial No.: 09/165,233, to Parikh (1998), assignee: Applied Materials, Inc.
Serial No.: 09/133,075 to Parikh et al. (1998), assignee: Applied Materials, Inc.
Serial No.: 09/113,578, to Parikh (1998), assignee: Applied Materials, Inc.

Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in the above identified application is patentable over the references known to applicant and disclosed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 30, 1999

By: Albert J. Dalhuisen
Albert J. Dalhuisen
Reg. No.: 36,117